

**REMARKS**

The Advisory Action mailed on January 18, 2007, and the Office Action mailed on August 29, 2006, have been reviewed and the comments of the Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Prior to this paper, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-27 were pending, with claims 11-25 being withdrawn from prosecution. By this paper, Applicants do not cancel or add any claims. Therefore, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-27 remain pending.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance for at least the reasons that follow.

**Prior Entry of the Amendments of the December 29, 2006, Response**

The Advisory Action of January 18, 2007, is silent as to whether or not the amendments proffered in the December 29, 2006, Response were entered. In the absence of an indication affirming the entry of the amendments, Applicants must assume that those proffered amendments were not entered. Thus, Applicants hereby include those prior-proffered amendments in the present set of amendments.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph**

In the Office Action and in the Advisory Action, claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In order to advance prosecution, and without prejudice or disclaimer, claim 26 has been amended as seen above. Reconsideration is requested.

**Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Judge (United States Patent No. 4,682,444) in view of JP

10-217090. In order to advance prosecution, and without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicants have amended each independent claim to recite that the surface finishing apparatus has a specific structure that produces a “target shaped periphery having a surface profile formed in a mid-concave profile having a depth equal to or greater than 5  $\mu$ m and equal to or less than 20  $\mu$ m.” (Emphasis added.)

The cited references are completely silent as to the structure of the invention as claimed. The references do not disclose or suggest a structure that is able to produce the target shaped periphery having a surface profile formed in a mid-concave profile having a depth equal to or greater than 5  $\mu$ m and equal to or less than 20  $\mu$ m. Further, it would not have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cited references to obtain such structure. Thus, the claims are allowable.

Support for the amendments to the independent claims may be found, among other places, at the paragraph spanning pages 17-18 of the application as originally filed.

\* \* \* \* \*

In addition to the just detailed reasons that make the present claims allowable in view of the cited references, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable for the reasons previously detailed in the December 29, 2006, Response, the arguments as to allowability detailed therein being incorporated by reference here in their entirety.

#### **Request for Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims**

Claims 11-25 stand withdrawn. Applicants note that these claims depend either directly or ultimately from claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that these claims be rejoined and allowed due to their dependency from claim 1, a claim that is allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that no significant burden is placed on the PTO by rejoining and examining these claims. Indeed, such action is concomitant with the indication that “upon allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to

additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim.”

**Conclusion**

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

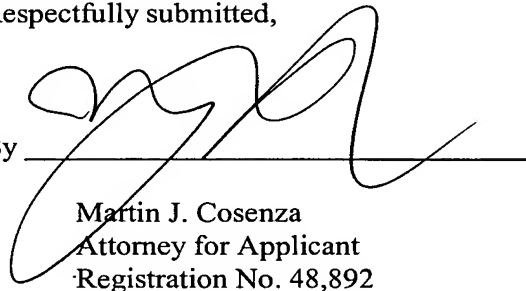
Examiner Shakeri is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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